

FROM THE OFFICE OF SENATOR
HENRY M. JACKSON (D., WASH.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1959

STATEMENT BY SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON
ON S. RES. 115 (Study of the Effectiveness of Governmental
Organization and Procedure in the Contest with World Communism)
ON THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE
JULY 14, 1959

Mr. President:

The Committee on Rules and Administration has reported favorably on S. Res. 115, and recommended that the resolution be agreed to by the Senate. That resolution would authorize the expenditure of not to exceed \$60,000 by the Committee on Government Operations, through January 31, 1960, to make a study of the effectiveness of the organization and procedures by which national policy is formed for the contest with world Communism.

Mr. President: I believe this study will lay the foundation for constructive action by the Senate to improve our machinery for national policy making and execution.

I have had a number of discussions with the White House staff in which we worked out an agreed basis for handling the study. The President has concurred in these arrangements. In our discussions the Executive Branch expressed a most cooperative point of view, and I have assured the President of my determination that the study will be conducted in the same cooperative spirit, so as to achieve positive results in the national interest.

Our nation now confronts its most serious challenge since the founding of the Republic. That challenge lies in the relentlessly growing over-all strength of world Communism. The challenge goes across the board. It is military, industrial, scientific, political, ideological, cultural, and diplomatic. The Communist goal is plain -- world supremacy for their way of life. It is all too clear how Moscow and Peking plan to reach that

goal. They do not merely plan to outstrip us militarily. They are determined to show that their system is superior to ours in every way -- that it can outproduce, outplan, outorganize, and outthink us, all to the end of imposing a Communist order on the world.

This is the strategy of protracted conflict -- the technique whereby weaker powers, in time, gain the strength to overcome stronger ones.

The belief is now widely shared that our free society is not effectively dealing with the Sino-Soviet challenge, and that defects in national policy-making and execution are an important cause of our difficulty.

The study provided for in S. Res. 115 is directed to this fundamental issue: Can a free society so organize its human and material resources as to outthink, outplan and outperform totalitarianism? Can a free society so organize itself as to recognize new problems in the world and in space -- and respond, in time, with new ideas?

This, of course, is not a partisan matter. Democracy is on trial for its life. Neither party has a monopoly of wisdom or a monopoly of error on this vital matter. Our study will deal with what is a national problem -- a national challenge.

The National Security Council was created by Act of Congress in 1947, with two main purposes: First, to assess and appraise the objectives, commitments and risks of American foreign policy in light of the nation's actual and potential military power. Second, to advise the President on the integration of domestic, foreign and military policies relating to national security and on the coordination of the agencies concerned. The Congress has never carefully studied the procedures and processes of the NSC to find out whether these purposes are in fact being achieved. It is

time to study this machinery in the light of our experience during the last twelve years of crisis.

The Senate has pending before it a number of bills proposing changes in our national policy-making machinery. It seems necessary and desirable to put these proposals in the proper perspective and not to proceed to create new agencies or to change procedures and processes except as a careful study of our national policy machinery indicates that changes are desirable.

The general questions that will be considered run like this:

1. What is the present structure for formulating, coordinating, and implementing national policy?
2. What is it supposed to accomplish?
3. Is it doing it?
4. In what areas are there grave shortcomings?
5. Why is this the case?
6. What improvements should be made?

As indicated in Resolution 115, if the study reveals ways in which national policy-making machinery could be strengthened and improved, the study will lead to legislation and other proposals.

The study will cover the structural interrelationships of all Federal agencies concerned in forming an integrated national strategy. Thus the study will deal with a broad area not now under inquiry by any Congressional committee.

This study was unanimously voted by the Government Operations Committee. Senator McClellan appointed the following Subcommittee on National Policy to conduct the study: Senator Jackson, Chairman, Senator Humphrey, and Senator Mundt.

The study will be nonpartisan, and will be conducted in a scholarly way. We are all interested, not in destructive criticism but in constructive reform.

The study will concern itself with the structures and procedures by which national policy is formed.

The study is being made by the Government Operations Committee in accordance with the jurisdiction under Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, providing that the Committee shall have the duty of:

"...B. Studying the operation of government activities at all levels with a view to determining its economy and efficiency;

"...C. Evaluating the effects of laws enacted to reorganize the legislative and executive branches of the government."

Mr. President: I commend to my colleagues the Report of the Committee on Rules and Administration on S. Res. 115. I am confident that our study is capable of making a genuine contribution to the advancement of the national interest. It can be of constructive help to the Executive Branch in finding better ways to organize our government for survival in this dangerous age.

Mr. President, I recommend the adoption of S. Res. 115.